

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A vibration damper comprising:

- a cylinder containing a damping medium;
- a piston rod extending from said cylinder;
- a piston connected to said piston rod, said piston having a piston rod side and a side away from said piston rod, said piston separating said cylinder into a working space on ~~the~~ said piston rod side and a working space on ~~the~~ said side away from ~~the~~ said piston rod;
- a bypass connecting said working spaces when ~~the~~ said piston is in a limited range of positions;
- at least one first through-channel for flow in a first direction between said working spaces through ~~the~~ said piston, each said first through-channel having an outlet side; and
- a first valve disk covering said outlet side and having a first pressure-actuated surface upon which pressure can act to lift ~~the~~ said first valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said first direction, and a second pressure actuated surface which is separated from ~~the~~ said first pressure-actuated surface when ~~the~~ said first valve disk is in ~~the~~ said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said first direction via ~~the~~ said bypass so that the pressure on ~~the~~ said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said first valve disk is additive.

2. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper as in of claim 1, wherein an inner surface of said cylinder has a groove defining said bypass ~~comprises a groove formed in said cylinder.~~

3. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 2, wherein said groove comprises an inlet area.

4. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 2, wherein said groove comprises an outlet area.

5. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 1, further comprising a sealing sleeve received in said cylinder and extending from said first valve disk into the working space on said piston rod side ~~opposite said disk from said piston~~.

6. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 5, wherein said first valve disk and said sealing sleeve are made as a single unit.

7. (withdrawn, currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 5, wherein said first valve disk and said sealing sleeve are made as separate components.

8. (withdrawn, currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 7, further comprising a valve spring pretensioning said sealing sleeve against said first valve disk.

9. (withdrawn, currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 8, wherein said spring has a spring characteristic which is selected so that the sealing sleeve can rise from ~~the~~ said first valve disk when the piston reaches a predetermined position.

10. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 5, further comprising a seal between said sealing sleeve and said cylinder.

11. (withdrawn, currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 10, wherein said bypass has a length and said piston has a sealing ring separated from said seal by a distance which is greater than or equal to the length of the bypass.

12. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 1, further comprising a pair of concentrically arranged valve seating surfaces for seating said first valve disk, said valve seating surfaces defining said first pressure actuated ~~area~~ surface therebetween.

13. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 1, wherein said second pressure-actuated ~~area~~ surface lies radially outside of said ~~valve seating surfaces~~ first pressure-actuated surface.

14. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 1, further comprising a nonreturn valve which blocks flow of pressure medium in said first direction toward said second pressure actuated surface.

15. (currently amended) [[A]] The vibration damper ~~as in~~ of claim 1, further comprising:

at least one second through-channel for flow in a second direction through the piston, each said second through-channel having an outlet side

a second valve disk covering said outlet side of said second through-channel and having a ~~first~~ third pressure-actuated surface which opposes said first pressure-actuated surface and upon which pressure can act to lift the second valve disk from a closed position to an open position to permit flow in said second direction, and a ~~second~~ fourth pressure actuated surface which is separated from ~~the first~~ said third pressure-actuated surface when ~~the~~ said second valve

disk is in ~~the~~ said closed position and can be acted on by damping medium flowing in said second direction via the bypass so that the pressure on ~~the~~ said first and second pressure actuated surfaces of said second valve disk is additive.